

**A TRANSITION CASE BY SINGLE POINT OF ENTRY PROGRAM
SAVING MICHIGAN MONEY AND PROVIDING OPTIONS TO CONSUMERS.
POTENTIAL SAVINGS TO MEDICAID \$62,884.00 FOR ONE YEAR NOT RESIDING IN NF**

For many consumers, Southwest Michigan Long-Term Care Connections remains a major source of information and assistance long after their transition home is complete. The relationship of Harold, a consumer who moved home from a nursing facility in May 2008, and his Options Counselor, Megan Hanley, demonstrates the benefits of this continued contact.

Harold moved into a nursing facility with his wife in early 2007. When she passed away in the summer of 2007, Harold began focusing on the rehabilitative therapies he knew he needed to return home. In addition, he began working with Megan to arrange for chore services and personal care assistance. Megan also helped him navigate his medical and prescription drug coverage options, as well as prepare his home for his return.

Harold has been home for almost a year now, and says that he often calls Megan with questions. He also explained that she calls him regularly to see if his situation has changed.

“I would call just to touch base,” said Megan. “He would call me when he had a need or when he got something in the mail and he didn’t know what to do. Sometimes if he called me to ask me a question, I would tell him who I thought would be the appropriate person to answer it.”

“She helps me out enormously,” said Harold.

Megan explained that she is also in touch with Harold’s care manager at the Area Agency on Aging in order to better coordinate Harold’s services.

“I was trying to keep everyone informed, just identifying the issues and talking to the correct people,” said Megan.

Over the course of the year, Megan has informed Harold of his options in regards to several issues, such as transferring his power of attorney and finding a more affordable health insurance provider.

“I gave him that information; it was awhile for him to decide what to do about it,” said Megan.

Harold also decided to reduce his chore services from five days a week to two days, and will soon begin occupational therapy for his arthritis. He said he works hard to maintain as much of his independence as possible, even continuing to drive and complete much of his own yard work.

“I don’t want to sit around and do nothing, that’s not good,” added Harold. “I have to fight.”

“He’s been doing really well,” said Megan. “He’s got that independent spirit.”

Overall, Megan and Harold agree that Megan’s continued contact has made Harold’s first year back at home much more manageable.

“Sometimes I found with different people, when they transition, even after their initial needs have been met, they still like to have the contact,” Megan said. “You develop a relationship with someone and you like to check in.”